

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2002

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za and on packet bulletin boards.

SARL news invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to amateurs to sarlnews@hotmail.com not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both English and Afrikaans.

In the news today:

ILLEGAL OPERATION BY AMATEURS ON THE AMATEUR BANDS

SARL 80-METRE QSO PARTY

MEMBERS ONLY PASSWORDS

JOTA AND CQ HOU KOERS

Stay tuned for more details on these and other news items.

You are tuned to ZS6SRL. Visit the SARL Website or call the SARL office which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

I continue with the rest of the news in detail:

ILLEGAL OPERATION BY AMATEURS ON THE AMATEUR BANDS

It has been brought to the attention of the SARL that a very large number of Radio Amateurs who provide communication during motor rallies and other sporting events, are doing so totally illegally and are thus placing their radio amateur status in jeopardy.

The regulator (ICASA) has laid down strict rules regarding "third party traffic". Currently NO "third party traffic" is allowed on the amateur bands.

However, the SARL received, after negotiations with ICASA, a special dispensation for its members only. Hamnet, an organization within the constraints of the SARL, may thus permit its members to provide this communication service.

Two avenues to bring the Radio Hams referred herein to within the boundaries of legality and thus protect their amateur status, would be for them: a) To join the South African Radio League and b) Become a Hamnet member as well.

Clubs and individuals, organizing such events, must also notify the SARL of such an event in advance and a list of the amateurs involved must be submitted

to the SARL immediately after the event. All clubs are urged to bring this to the attention of their members.

SARL 80-METRE QSO PARTY

The aim of the 80-meter QSO party, which will be held on Thursday 3 October, is to create an interest in and activity on the 80-metre band. The QSO party will start at 19:00 and end at 22:00 CAT with SSB activity in the segment 3,600 to 3,650 MHz.

The exchange is call sign, RS signal report, a serial number commencing with 001 and a Grid Locator or QTH (Location). Ten points are scored for each contact with a ZS station and fifteen points for each contact with a non-ZS station.

The address for you correctly completed log sheets and summary is The Contest Committee, 17 Brownlee Place, Bluff, Durban 4052 or by e-mail to zs5lp@sharksden.co.za.

SARL VHF/UHF CONTEST

The second leg of the SARL VHF/UHF Contest is something of the past; the conditions on the bands were down compared to the first leg. The address for your correctly completed log summaries and log sheets is John Fielding, PO Box 256, Monteseel MCP, 3670 or by e-mail to johnf@futurenet.co.za. Please do not use any other address.

VINTAGE 1AW QSL FETCHES RECORD PRICE

We're not certain if ARRL co-founder and first president Hiram Percy Maxim would have been proud or surprised to know that one of his old 1AW QSLs apparently set a price record for the sale of a single QSL card. A 1923-vintage HPM 1AW card recently went for \$2 125 on the eBay auction site.

The 1AW card appears to verify reception of 9CTR on a wavelength of 193 meters rather than a two-way contact. "You were calling another 9," Maxim wrote in the card's "Remarks" section. Although the card proclaims "American Radio Relay League Station 1AW" across the top, the now-famous call sign was Maxim's own personal call sign at the time, not the League's, and Maxim operated from his home on Hartford.

Until the 1AW card sale, the highest known price paid for a single QSL card was more than \$1 100 for an AC4YN QSL from the Tibet DXpedition of Sir Evan Nepean G5YN, who died March 2001 at the age of 92.

So do not get rid of your QSL cards!

MEMBERS ONLY PASSWORDS

A special note for new members. The SARL website makes it possible to get your members only password long before your confirmation letter is sent to you by post. To access your password you simply need to type the word HELP into

the password field on the SARL web. This will automatically check if the office has allocated a password and if it has the password will automatically be sent to your e-mail address. So there is no need to wait.

Further information on this is available on the SARL website's Frequently Asked Questions page. The SARL web address is www.sarl.org.za.

JOTA AND CQ HOU KOERS

The annual Jamboree-on-the-Air and CQ Hou Koers will be held over the weekend of 18 to 20 October 2002. Scouts and Guides from all over the world will be taking part in the 45th Jamboree-on-the-Air on 19 and 20 October, while Voortrekkers will be participating in CQ Hou Koers on 18 and 19 October.

Radio amateurs are requested to contact and support their local Scout groups, Guide companies and/or Voortrekker Commandos for these activities. You can be important in the life of a child.

SAATI AGM

On Monday 30 September at 20:00 in the evening the Annual General Meeting of SAATI will be held on at the clubhouse of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club, situated on the south campus of Pretoria University. An invitation is extended to all amateurs interested in digital communications.

RADIO ZS

The Editor of Radio ZS informed SARL News that the September/October issue of Radio ZS was posted on Friday 27 September. Only paid-up members will be receiving Radio ZS and if you do not receive your copy enquire about your membership at the NARC. Contact Debbie at 011 675 2393.

The Editor also reminds all contributors and intended contributors that the deadline for the November/December issue will be the 31st of October.

LOST EQUIPMENT IN CAPE TOWN

Barry Fletcher ZS1FJ reports that his Icom IC-706Mk1 was removed from his home during the past two months while he was abroad. All are requested to monitor the classified advertisements in the press and elsewhere for the radio. The serial number will be published in due course. Barry may be contacted on telephone 021-7624553.

CQ WW DX PHONE CONTEST

The annual and very popular CQ WW DX Phone Contest, hosted by the CQ magazine, will hit the airwaves from 00:00 UTC 26 October to 24:00 UTC 27 October. The aim of the contest is to work as many countries and zones on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metre bands, and the possibility of working the DXCC over this weekend is most possible. The exchange is RS and CQ Zone, South Africa is in Zone 38. The rules can be found in the September issue of CQ magazine and on the website at www.cq-amateur-radio.com.

QSL BUREAU

Amateurs are reminded that QSL cards for non-members of the SARL will be kept until the end of October. Members joining until then will receive their cards.

The QSL cards of members who have not yet renewed their subscriptions will also be held until the end of October.

QSL cards sent to local amateurs are sorted on a Tuesday at the bureau and posted on a Wednesday. QSL cards for DX destinations are sorted on Thursdays. At present there is no backlog, but the bureau requires the services of volunteers who are willing to assist with the sorting on a Thursday. What are required are persons who can assist for an hour or two on a Thursday to sort the QSL cards for the international bureaus. If you can assist here please contact Fritz Sutherland, ZS6ASF on 012 997 1114 or on 083 304 0028. (Even though no salary, pension, medical scheme, shares or motor scheme is available, your assistance will be highly appreciated.)

GAUTENG BAND PLANNING MEETING

The date of the next Gauteng band planning committee meeting has been moved to Saturday 12 October. The meeting will commence at 09:00 CAT at the NARC.

Affiliated and non-affiliated clubs are invited to attend this meeting, which will be the last meeting for 2002. This will be an important meeting as the commercial onslaught against the 70 cm band as well as the terms of reference for the committee will be discussed. The SARL Book Shop and the Reno Faber radio shack will also be open.

This bulletin was compiled by Dennis ZS4BS and read by.....fromas a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 21560, 9750, and 7082 kHz and 145,625 MHz in East London, 145,650 in Durban and 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 20:00 CAT on 3215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor ARMI.

Also join the SARL President's net, which is on the air at noon on Sundays on 7082 kHz.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL, thank you for joining us. Also a big word of thanks to those persons supplying news for these bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX